GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3597
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
MEDICAL COLLEGES HOSPITALS IN RURAL AREAS
BHERU LAL MEENA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open medical colleges and hospitals in rural areas;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to meet the situation where medical services are in complete disarray and neither doctors nor medicines are available in three-tier system - sub centre, primary health centres and community health centre;

(c) whether the situation in North India is more pitiable;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to bring the hospital management under their own control; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a): The Central Government has no proposal for setting up new medical colleges and hospitals in rural areas at present.

(b)&(c): While Health is primarily a state subject, the Central Government is providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the Health Care Programmes.States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps to bridge the existing gaps, on priority basis. Government have initiated a number of innovative programmes to improve the overall health care facilities in the country and to ensure its outreach to every nook and corner of the country.

Under the State Health Systems Project, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals are being upgraded to provide quality health services to people in rural and backward areas of the country.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, the Health Care Infrastructure is being strengthened by increased provisioning of drugs, essential consumables, repairs of essential equipments and towards contingencies at health centres including Community Health Centres.

Area Development Projects are also being implemented with the financial assistance from World Bank and other donor agencies for strengthening of health and family welfare infrastructure. One of the main activities of Area Projects include construction of building for sub-centres, Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres.Efforts are also being made to increase the outreach of health care services through Swasthya Melas and Reproductive and Child Health camps etc.

(d)&(e): There is no such proposal.